

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
June 8, 2015

Deputy Mayor Paul Shapiro called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro  
Excused: Paterson, Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015 special meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Raymond moved and Mr. Marcellino seconded to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015 regular meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Neighborhood Assistance Act Programs

Deputy Mayor Shapiro called the public hearing to order at 7:32 p.m. The Town Clerk read the legal notice. Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter provided details on the three recommended projects identified for the program. No members of the public offered comments. The public hearing was closed at 7:39 p.m.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

John Lenard, Deerfield Lane, spoke to the importance of the Community School for the Arts and suggested that instead of merging with the Parks and Recreation Department the Town should support the rebuilding of their current facility. Mr. Lenard stated such a facility would make the Town even better.

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, commented on the “threads” given to the Republican Party by the Chronicle concerning their efforts to bring the Town budget to referendum and urged the Council to reexamine the process.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, posed a number of questions concerning financial documents he has been reviewing and questioned the audit procedure prior to the Town taking on projects from other entities. (Statement attached. Supplemental materials will be made part of the 6/22/2015 Town Council packet)

Tom Levine, Thomas Drive and father of ten year old twins, expressed his gratitude to the Council and to the Town for the opportunities which have been provided including the Community School for the Arts, the Mansfield Community Center, Downtown Storrs and the Town Meetings. Mr. Levine suggested there may be ways to improve resident participation in the Town Meeting but stated the importance of the role of the Council in the budget process as they must balance all interest.

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Peter Millman, Dog Lane, voiced support for the budget process and the ensuing product which is the result of careful thought and consideration. Mr. Millman stated that the Town has been able, even given reductions in state funding, to maintain services and suggested the Council maybe look at expanding tax abatements for families.

Ida Millman, Glen Ridge, requested the Council try to make the Town Meeting as accessible as possible and avoid the referendum.

V. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- The Town Manager discussed the impact of the state budget. The Town Manager and Councilors cautioned against counting on projected future increases in revenues.

VI. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee reminded Councilors of the special meeting to discuss financial controls will be held on Wednesday June 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Shapiro commented that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the town square was well done and that it was wonderful to see kids tumbling on the green.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Marcellino seconded to move Item 6, Community School for the Arts (CSA) Partnership Update, ahead of Old Business.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

2. Neighborhood Assistance Act Programs

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Moran seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, to approve the following projects for submission to the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services for inclusion in the 2015 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program: water harvesting project at the Mansfield Community Center; Mansfield Community Playground; and development of a new community clinic and support facility for United Services, Inc.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Storrs Center Update

At the next meeting, Mr. Hart will provide an answer for Ms. Raymond's earlier question concerning the ability to maintain a private club in a facility paid for with federal and state funds.

4. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

A press release indicating final approval of the water diversion permit requested by Connecticut Water Company and UConn to bring water from Tolland was sent to Councilors.

5. Community/Campus Relations

The Town/University Relations Committee will be meeting on June 9, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

6. Community School for the Arts

Parks and Recreation Director Curt Vincente, UConn Vice-Provost and Executive Vice-President of Academic Affairs Sally Reis, outgoing Dean of the UConn School of Fine Arts Bríd Grant, and new Dean of the UConn School of Fine Arts Anne D'Alleva reviewed the first year of the partnership. UConn continues to administer the program and the Town handles the marketing and collection functions. The plan is to continue the partnership for another year at which time the situation will be reevaluated. All speakers voiced continued support for the program. Council members discussed the relocation of the classes from the Depot Campus to other venues, the level of programming, parking concerns, and the projected budget.

7. Quarterly Financial Statements Dated March 31, 2015

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved effective June 8, 2015, to accept the Financial Statements dated March 31, 2015.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Proposed FY 14/15 Capital Improvements Adjustments

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved, effective June 8, 2015, to accept the Financial Statements dated March 31, 2015.

The motion passed unanimously.

9. Naming of Public Street in Storrs Center

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Raymond seconded, to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee on Naming of Streets and Buildings to review and recommend a name for the new public street located east of the buildings at 34 Wilbur Cross Way and 40 Wilbur Cross Way, also known as buildings VS8/9 and VS-10.

Mr. Ryan has agreed to again chair this Committee. Deputy Mayor Shapiro requested that one Democrat and one Republican volunteer and that interested members contact the Mayor and Town Manager prior to the next meeting.

10. Independence Day Ceremonial Presentation Planning Subcommittee

Ms. Moran volunteered to chair the subcommittee and Mr. Kochenburger and Mr. Kegler agreed to also serve. The presentation will take place prior to the June 22, 2015 meeting.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Moran reported the Personnel Committee will begin work on the Town Manager's review.

X. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORT

No comments offered.

XI. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 11. M. Stanton re: Certification of Petition
- 12. Notice of Budget Referendum
- 13. Public Forum on Aquatic Invasive Treatment for Eagleville Lake
- 14. Mansfield Skate Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Mr. Hart invited all to the reopening and thanked all those who provided support for this important project.
- 15. Mansfield Minute – June 2015

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Mr. Kochenburger requested the modifications to the fee waiver program be reviewed by an ad hoc committee. Additional information on the program specifics will be available in August.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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